

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (previously amended): A catalyst for converting NO_x in exhaust gases to NH₃ comprising:

at least one metal oxide impregnated with at least one noble metal, the metal oxide selected from the group consisting of Fe₂O₃, Cr₂O₃, MgO, ZnO, TiO_x, a combination of Fe₂O₃ and La- γ - β -Al₂O₃, and a combination of Fe₂O₃ and CeO₂, the noble metal selected from the group consisting of Pt, Pd, Ir, Rh, and Ru.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (previously amended): The catalyst of claim 1 wherein the noble metal is present in an amount up to 5 percent by weight.

Claim 4 (original): The catalyst of claim 1 further comprising at least one transition metal in an amount of at most 5 percent by weight.

Claim 5 (previously amended): The catalyst of claim 4 wherein the at least one transition metal is selected from the group consisting of Cu, Zn, Ni, Mo, Ir, Co, Fe, Cr, and Mn.

Claim 6 (original): The catalyst of claim 1 further comprising at least one additional metal selected from alkali metals and alkaline earth metals in an amount of at most 5 percent by weight.

Claim 7 (previously amended): The catalyst of claim 6 wherein the at least one additional metal is selected from the group consisting of Cs, K, and Ba.

Claim 8 (original): The catalyst of claim 1 further comprising at least one rare earth oxide in an amount of at most 5 percent by weight.

Claim 9 (previously amended): The catalyst of claim 8 wherein the rare earth oxide is selected from the group consisting of La₂O₃ and CeO₂.

Claim 10 (original): The catalyst of claim 4 further comprising at least one additional metal selected from alkali metals and alkaline earth metals, the at least one additional metal present in an amount of at most 5 percent by weight.

Claim 11 (previously amended): The catalyst of claim 10 wherein the additional metal is selected from the group consisting of Cs, K, and Ba.

Claim 12 (original): The catalyst of claim 4 further comprising at least one rare earth oxide in an amount of at most 5 percent by weight.

Claim 13 (previously amended): The catalyst of claim 12 wherein the rare earth oxide is selected from the group consisting of La_2O_3 and CeO_2 .

Claim 14 (original): The catalyst of claim 5 further comprising at least one additional metal selected from alkali metals and alkaline earth metals, the at least one additional metal present in an amount of at most 5 percent by weight.

Claim 15 (previously amended): The catalyst of claim 14 wherein the additional metal is selected from the group consisting of Cs, K, and Ba.

Claim 16 (original): The catalyst of claim 5 further comprising at least one rare earth oxide in an amount of at most 5 percent by weight.

Claim 17 (previously amended): The catalyst of claim 16 wherein the rare earth oxide is selected from the group consisting of La_2O_3 and CeO_2 .

Claim 18 (original): The catalyst of claim 6 further comprising at least one rare earth oxide in an amount of at most 5 percent by weight.

Claim 19 (previously amended): The catalyst of claim 18 wherein the rare earth oxide is selected from the group consisting of La_2O_3 and CeO_2 .

Claim 20 (original): The catalyst of claim 7 further comprising at least one rare earth oxide in an amount of at most 5 percent by weight.

Claim 21 (previously amended): The catalyst of claim 20 wherein the rare earth oxide is selected from the group consisting of La_2O_3 and CeO_2 .

Claim 22 (original): The catalyst of claim 4 further comprising at least one additional metal and at least one rare earth oxide, the additional metal and the rare earth oxide each present in an amount of at most 5 percent, the additional metal comprising at least one selected from alkali metals and alkaline earth metals.

Claim 23 (previously amended): The catalyst of claim 4 further comprising at least one additional metal and at least one rare earth oxide, the additional metal and the rare earth oxide each present in an amount of at most 5 percent, the additional metal is selected from the group consisting of Cs, K, and Ba.

Claim 24 (previously amended): The catalyst of claim 4 further comprising at least one additional metal and at least one rare earth oxide, the additional metal and the rare earth oxide each present in an amount of at most 5 percent, the additional metal comprising at least one selected from alkali metals and alkaline earth metals, the rare earth oxide is selected from the group consisting of La_2O_3 and CeO_2 .

Claim 25 (previously amended): The catalyst of claim 5 further comprising at least one additional metal and at least one rare earth oxide, the additional metal and the rare earth oxide each present in an amount of at most 5 percent, the additional metal is selected from alkali metals and alkaline earth metals.

Claim 26 (previously amended): The catalyst of claim 5 further comprising at least one additional metal and at least one rare earth oxide, the additional metal and the rare earth oxide each present in an amount of at most 5 percent, the additional metal is selected from the group consisting of Cs, K, and Ba.

Claim 27 (previously amended): The catalyst of claim 5 further comprising at least one additional metal and at least one rare earth oxide, the additional metal and the rare earth oxide each present in an amount of at most 5 percent, the additional metal is selected from the group consisting of alkali metals and alkaline earth metals, the rare earth oxide is selected from the group consisting of La_2O_3 and CeO_2 .

Claim 28 (previously amended): The catalyst of claim 5 further comprising at least one additional metal and at least one rare earth oxide, the additional metal and the rare earth oxide each present in an amount of at most 5 percent, the additional metal is selected from the group consisting of Cs, K, and Ba, the rare earth oxide is selected from the group consisting of La_2O_3 and CeO_2 .

Claim 29 (previously amended): A catalyst for converting NO_x in exhaust gases to NH_3 comprising:

at least one compound represented by a formula $\text{AB}_{1-x}\text{M}_x\text{O}_3$, wherein A is a rare earth metal, B is a transition metal, M is a noble metal, and wherein x is in a range from 0 to 0.3.

Claim 30 (canceled)

Claim 31 (original): The catalyst of claim 29, wherein A comprises lanthanum.

Claim 32 (original): The catalyst of claim 29, wherein B comprises manganese.

Claim 33 (original): The catalyst of claim 29, wherein M comprises platinum.

Claim 34 (original): The catalyst of claim 29, wherein A comprises lanthanum, B comprises manganese, and M comprises platinum.

Claims 35-41 (withdrawn)